OCA 87-5571 30 October 1987

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Berman Iran/Contra Bill: Conversation with Mike Van Dusen and Administration

- 1. On 30 October 1987, I spoke with Mike Van Dusen, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, House Foreign Affairs Committee. I asked him who of the members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee might cosponsor the draft Berman bill. He responded that Representative Fascell probably would and Representative Hamilton possibly would. It appears that other members of the Foreign Affairs Committee might also join in.
- 2. He was aware of our problems with the bill, but did not think it would be useful to attempt to influence the bill's drafters at this point. He noted that a draft of the bill had been informally provided to the Administration and suggested that factoring our concerns into the Administration's response would be the best way to proceed.
- 3. I then contacted David Addington of the White House Legislative Liaison. He confirmed that a copy of the bill had been provided to the Administration. He indicated the Administration had responded that it objected strenuously to the bill, chiefly because of its requirement to notify the Foreign Affairs Committees of covert arms transfers, and would likely recommend a veto if the bill were presented to the President for signature.

Legislation Division
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